

SeniorCare Loses Rebates with Certain Drug Manufacturers

Effective Jan. 1, 2012, folks that have the top two levels of eligibility referred to as Levels 2b or 3 of the WI's SeniorCare prescription drug program will see a change in the list of medications of covered drugs. These levels reflect an annual income higher than \$21,780 per individual or \$29,420 per couple. (Please note that folks with lower incomes, who are on Level 1 and 2a, will not be affected by this change.)

Coverage of drugs for SeniorCare members in levels 2b and 3 is limited to drugs from manufacturers that enter into a rebate agreement with the state's Department of Health Services. The manufacturers agree to make rebate payments to the State for those prescription drugs that are paid for by SeniorCare which, in turn, helps fund the SeniorCare program. Recently some manufacturers have ended their rebate agreements with the State.

Drugs from the following manufacturers will no longer be covered on and after Jan. 1, 2012 for persons on Level 2b or 3: Glades Pharmaceuticals; Stiefel Laboratories; GlaxoSmithKline; Stonebridge Pharmaceuticals; Reliant Pharmaceuticals. These companies are being added to a list with other manufacturers that do not have a signed rebate agreement with the State.

Some of the more common drugs sold by these manufacturers that no longer have a rebate agreement include: Advair, Ceftin, Coreg, Lamictal, Avodart, Serevent, Requip, Beconase, Flovent, and Lovaza; however, this is NOT an all-inclusive list!

If you find that you are affected by SeniorCare not covering your prescriptions, you may consider speaking with your doctor about alternative medications. You may also have a special enrollment period to enroll in a Medicare Part D Plan. To discuss these options, please call your local Elderly Benefit Specialist by calling the ADRC at 723-6113 or 1-800-514-0066.